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## SOME FACTS ABOUT RUSSIA

The Russian Information bureau at New York, in a long review of conditions in the soviet republic, gives this account of affairs, based on official statements and statistics:

Progress in reconstruction naturally divides itself into considerations of food, transport and organization. To this another department has been added, which deals with progress made in the great scheme of electrification.

Great progress is reported in this plan, the department of electrification, the highest public economic council, reporting that 45 per cent of its program has been realized. One factory will soon be turning out 20,000 electric bulbs a day. The electric train on its third trip brought delegates to the eighth soviet congress at Moscow. The radio laboratory at Nishni-Novgorod has got in touch with far towns of soviet Russia by wireless telephone. It is reported that wireless stations outside of Russia have been communicated with.

Perhaps the most important immediate problem is the dual one of food and transportation.

In a meeting of the soviet congress for the Moscow district the chairman of the food committee reported that in the course of the year the Moscow population received 770 per cent more food than in the previous year. Three-quarters of the child population of Moscow, 170,000, are now fed free in communal feeding centers.

**120,250,000 Poods of Grain Harvested.**  
According to the latest reports, the Russian grain supply up to November had reached the total of 120,250,000 poods for the year. (A pood is equal to 36 pounds plus.) This exceeds all harvest results of the past year. In the previous year only 57,500,000 poods were delivered, in 1918 only 47,000,000 and in 1917, 32,000,000; and in the last year under the empire only 32,000,000. The largest amount was delivered by the ancient soviet provinces, which doubled the amount they delivered last year.

At the same time the food commissar of Turkestan has taken steps to supply the normal population with food by regular expeditions.

The reconstruction of transport lines is going ahead rapidly.

The head of Russian transportation, Boryssov, reports that the rolling stock is continually increasing. In January, 1920, there were 60,000 freight cars. In October this number had increased to 418,000. The same progress was shown in repairing. In January, 1,510 cars; in October, 12,000.

During the same period the total number of Russian locomotives was almost doubled, increasing from 9,468 to 17,368.

Of this number the republic has 7,346 locomotives at work, 4,368 in repair shops and 5,412 to be repaired. The number of engines in use is increasing from month to month.

Over the frozen Volga a temporary railway has been built, which joins the Mishnekotel road with the Moscow-Mishnii road. The project made it possible to forward the fuel supply of the republic. Because of it the Sormow works have been able to run through the winter.

Closely related to the efficiency of the transport are the mines and the metallurgical plants. Progress here keeps pace with the railways.

In Kaluga the Dunenski and Tesot steel foundries have been set in operation. The factories are supplied with more than enough fuel, the latest reports say.

4,000,000 Poods of Iron Mined

During the first half of 1920, reports show 4,000,000 poods of iron

were mined at the soviet Ural.

An expedition of 268 specialists has just completed a survey of the north coast of the Petcherskij territory. They sent back ten tons of coal to Petrograd to be tested and ascertained the possibility of extending the fishing and fur trades. They collected valuable geological, ethnographical and statistical data.

In the peat factory of Moschajsk newly invented ovens have been erected for the manufacture of peat into resin, tar, ammonia, salts and coke. This process is a Russian discovery, not used as yet by any other people.

A machine used to utilize the power of the wind, called an accumulator, has been invented and successfully tried. It was invented by Udinskow, a Russian.

In Baku there are now 25,000 tons of petroleum and 250,000 tons of benzene ready for shipment. The naphtha production in North Russia has been increased ten fold. Under the czar nothing was produced there. Because of the voluntary doubling of work on the part of the workmen the naphtha fleet has brought out \$2,000,000 tons of naphtha, which exceeds all pre-war figures.

## Build Up Coal Reserves.

In Orenberg 396 wagons of cotton have arrived from Turkestan. The council of the Ukrainian labor army has taken steps to build up the coal reserves from the Donetz basin at the various railway junctions. In Uredsk a large, new meat preserving factory with modern equipment, has been set in operation. The metallurgical factories have increased their production and workers in this industry are steadily increasing and exchange pieces for locomotives are being turned out rapidly.

Much effort is being put forth to increase the educational facilities and teachers' staffs throughout the republic.

Before the revolution Moscow had 12 infant schools, with 250 employees. The soviet government has established at Moscow 250 schools, which accommodate 13,000 children.

With the help of the commissar of education, a new scientific institution has been opened in Petrograd for research in radium and X-rays. It has sent its leader, Lemenow, to Germany.

## Education Made Compulsory.

An energetic campaign is being carried on against workers who do not wish to become literate. In some provinces food cards are revoked unless the workers attend school. In the Donetz basin all children under 16 and all women are not permitted to work underground.

In the matter of organization, the central committee of the trade union of the workers of the constructing industry reports that the union, which had 162,000 members, now has 367,000. During the year 60 union conferences were held by this one organization in the provinces. It is accomplishing much in the line of social and professional education.

In many instances the scheme of electrification is linked with trade unionism. The peasants of the village of Kossyrewo, near Moscow, wired their own houses for electricity. In Iwanowo-Wosnesensk the workers did the same thing.

## Columbia Woman Reveals Facts

"I was run down with rheumatism, had nervous breakdown with stiffness and swelling of the joints so bad I could not move without great pain," said Mrs. Fannie Thurman, residing at 106 W. Ash St., Columbia, Mo. "I read an advertisement for Prescription Number 40," she continued, "and decided to try it. After taking two bottles the stiffness and pains have left me and I feel as supple as a child. I am sending you this letter for publication as I think every sufferer should hear of the wonderful merits of Prescription Number 40."

Prescription Number 40 is recommended for blood troubles from any cause, chronic constipation, indigestion, stomach and liver troubles, eczema, skin troubles, etc. Acts on the liver, removing waste matters from the system, thus cleansing the blood of all impurities and doing away with the need of cathartic pills and tablets.

## TO IMPROVE THEIR SOIL

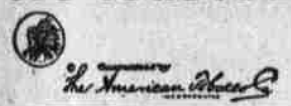
An organization of Ralls county farmers, having borrowed steam drills, will blast out limestone from the native ledges in the most efficient manner. This will be pulverized by a crusher owned and operated co-operatively, and will be applied to the sour soils of that locality.

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Money back without question if HUNT'S Eczema falls in the treatment of ITCH, ECZEMA, RINGWORM, TETTER or other itching skin diseases. Try a 25 cent box at our risk.

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### PASSING OF PROMISED DIVIDENDS BY I. T. C. NETTLES STOCKHOLDERS

Apparently things are not running as smoothly with the Industrial Transportation Co., a chain store organization which operates entirely in small towns, but which is said to own more than 200 stores in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. A stockholders' meeting was held at the company's office in St. Louis Monday and Tuesday of this week, and while the Interstate Grocer was unable to get all the facts, it obtained sufficient to indicate that the passing of the promised dividend in January did not set well with the security holders.

The fact that the company's stock is being offered as low as \$3.50 a share by brokers when it is being sold out in the small towns of Missouri by the company's brokers at \$12.50 a share, has not tended to create a very high degree of confidence, though the slump in the stock is not generally known by the stockholders. When it is, difficulties are certain to be encountered as the public is not going to fall over itself paying \$12.50 a share for stock whose market value is less than one-third.

From what a reporter for The Interstate Grocer learned the arguments in the meeting were somewhat acrimonious at times. The meeting was said to have been made up largely of store managers who had proxies, and a sprinkling of investors who came to town to find out what was doing. Whether they succeeded or not is not definitely known, but the management is having trouble is evidenced from expression of some of the investors.

## "Happy" Day Not So Happy.

One of the investors, one Texas, told an Interstate Grocer man that "something had to be done to correct the mistakes that have been made. Before it was possible to ascertain what they were this stockholder was called away by 'Happy' Day, who was the chairman of the stockholders' meeting, and who came up the elevator. This investor had just been shown an advertisement in a St. Louis daily paper offering 100 shares at \$3.75.

He was accompanied by another Texan, who, after his friend had read the advertisement, kicked him slightly in the bend of the knee with the remark "Now don't get weak-kneed." "Happy" Day was shown the advertisement and suggested that this was nothing more than many other stocks had declined, to which The Interstate Grocer man made the rejoinder "but you are selling this stock at \$12.50 a share out in the country when the only market price is what the stock will bring in the open market."

"Happy" Day seemed to be somewhat frustrated over the incident and after calling the first Texan away called to the other man that he wanted to see him. He spoke a few words then sauntered to his office, took off his coat and came back to the entrance of the I. T. C. office and said in a loud tone: "You gentlemen go into the office, don't enter into any discussion with the people in the halls." What "Happy's" motives were he did not make clear, but evidently he wanted to avoid an embarrassing discussion.

## Expels Interlopers from Meeting.

When the stockholders' meeting opened Monday afternoon, "Happy" Day was made chairman of the meeting. He at once announced that a definite program had been mapped out and that it would be followed to the letter. No question will be permitted, nor discussion allowed, he said, to interfere with that program, adding that when this program is completed the stockholders would be given chance to ask questions. He also announced that all newspaper men and outsiders should leave the room and appointed two sergeants-at-arms to look over the credentials of every one present to see that there were no interlopers.

The Interstate Grocer man was unable to get an accurate outline of the program though he did learn that

## Reduced Prices on Shoe Repairing

MEN'S SEWED SOLES	\$1.50
MEN'S TACKED SOLES	\$1.25
LADIES' SEWED SOLES	\$1.25
LADIES' TACKED SOLES	\$1.00
MILITARY HEELS	\$ .90
MILITARY HEELS, WITH RUBBER	\$1.25
WING-FOOT RUBBER HEELS	\$ .75
SLIPKNOT RUBBER HEELS	\$ .50
LADIES' LEATHER HEELS REPAIRED	\$ .35
MEN'S LEATHER HEELS REPAIRED	\$ .50
MEN'S HALF RUBBER HEELS	\$ .60
ALL LADIES' RUBBER HEELS	\$ .50

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there was dissatisfaction with the fact that no dividend was paid in January as had been promised. The failure to pay dividends was said to be due to the slump in prices, yet the company only operated one jobbing house, so far as stockholders interviewed could say, hence the loss in that direction could not be very heavy, especially as the stores are said to turn their stock every month.

Another stockholder, who said he had confidence in the face of the low price at which the stock was being sold, said there were some kickers in his town and that they would not patronize their own store, but went five miles to get supplies rather than to go two miles to the company's store, located in Northwestern Arkansas. This man paid \$10 a share.

## "Deposed" Manager Threatens Suit.

Another "deposed" manager said he was going to file suit against the Industrial Transportation Co. if they did not settle with him. He was induced to purchase stock in September, buying \$1,000 worth and was made manager, the promise being made that he would receive in addition eight per cent dividend in January. After two months he was discharged as manager under charges that he was a poker fiend and a crap shooter.

This individual, a young countrified looking, clear countenanced fellow, said he did not know how to play poker, nor had he ever engaged in shooting craps, in fact, he said he was ignorant of both games of chance. He was employed at the monthly salary of \$150, he said, but never received more than \$125. He is from a Missouri town and said about \$4,000 or \$5,000 of the I. T. stock had been sold in that vicinity.

The company's tactics, as had been previously explained, is to enter a country town and buy out a country merchant. If the store has a mixed stock a sale is put on in a great hurry manner, and what remains unsold is purchased by the company at the market price, no allowance being made for freight. The owner of the store is baited to sell out on the promise of employing him as manager at a salary of \$150 a month, some times more.

## How Manager May Lose Out.

## COULD HARDLY EAT ANYTHING UNTIL HE USED PE-RU-NA

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"I was weak and tired and could hardly eat anything until I used Pe-Ru-Na. Soon my appetite was good and my strength returned. I told my neighbors and every one of them found it a wonderful medicine. You can always get a dose of Pe-Ru-Na at my house no matter what the weather."   
—MA. T. J. WAGGONER, Box 2, Kansas City, Mo.

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